

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 have been canceled.

Claims 18-56 are pending in the present application.

Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Norman F. Oblon
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 24,618

Vincent K. Shier, Ph.D.
Registration No. 50,552



22850

Tel.: 703-413-3000
Fax: 703-413-3220
NFO:VKS